

## REMARKS

Claims 25-31 have been cancelled. Claims 18-24 and 32 remain pending in the application. Reconsideration is respectfully requested in light of the following remarks.

### Section 102(e) Rejection:

The Examiner rejected claims 18-32 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Canady et al. (U.S. Patent 6,385,665) (hereinafter "Canady"). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection for at least the following reasons.

Regarding claim 18, Canady fails to disclose a computer system comprising a processor and a memory coupled to the processor, wherein the memory comprises program instructions configured to implement a plurality of device drivers, each operable to monitor an operation status of one of a plurality of devices, wherein to monitor the operational status the device driver is configured to generate environment data representative of at least one parameter value of at least one sensor associated with the device. Instead, Canady teaches a system that includes application card software residing on **separate application cards**. Canady's application card software along with unit controller software and system manager software performs the fault management functions of Canady's system (Canady, column 4, lines 23-32). Canady teaches software executing on different hardware systems and devices, rather than teaching a plurality of devices drivers each operable to monitor an operational status of one of the plurality of devices, where the plurality of devices drivers are all implemented by program instructions from the same memory. Applicants' claim 18 recites a completely different system architecture from that of Canady. In Applicants' claim 18, the plurality of device drivers implemented by program instructions on the same memory.

The Examiner contends that in Canady's system, the software on the system managers represents one plurality of devices drivers, while the software on the unit controllers and on the application cards represent two other pluralities of devices drivers

and that each device driver is operable to monitor one of a plurality of devices. However, Canady teaches that the various layers of his software work together to perform the fault detection and fault management in his system. For instance, Canady clearly states that the “fault management system and method of the present invention *occupies all architectural layers*, and is primarily divided into two major building blocks, Fault Detection, and Fault Managing” (italics added, Canady, column 4, lines 50-53). Canady further teaches that software at all levels of his architecture take part in his fault management system (*see, e.g.*: Canady, column 4, lines 58-60; column 65-67; column 5, lines 11-20). Thus, Canady clearly does not teach a plurality of device drivers implemented by program instructions *from the same memory*, each operable to monitor an operational status of one of a plurality of devices.

Furthermore, by specifically teaching a distributed fault detection system that is implemented across different devices and different hardware architecture levels, **Canady teaches away** from a computer system including a processor and a memory, where the memory includes program instructions configured to implement a plurality of device drivers, each operable to monitor an operation status of on a plurality of devices.

Thus, the rejection of claim 18 is not supported by the cited art and removal thereof is respectfully requested. Similar remarks apply to claim 32 as well.

## CONCLUSION


Applicants submit the application is in condition for allowance, and prompt notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

If any fees are due, the Commissioner is authorized to charge said fees to Meyertons, Hood, Kivlin, Kowert, & Goetzel, P.C. Deposit Account No. 501505/5681-10800/RCK.

Also enclosed herewith are the following items:

- ☒ Return Receipt Postcard
- ☐ Petition for Extension of Time
- ☐ Notice of Change of Address
- ☐ Other:

Respectfully submitted,



Robert C. Kowert  
Reg. No. 39,255  
ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANT(S)

Meyertons, Hood, Kivlin, Kowert, & Goetzel, P.C.  
P.O. Box 398  
Austin, TX 78767-0398  
Phone: (512) 853-8850

Date: February 10, 2006